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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/524,601	NISHIMOTO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	LONGBIT CHAI	2131	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to phone interview on 1/31/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>1/31/2008</u> 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
|---|---|

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with *William R. Evans (Reg. No. 25,858)* on 31 January 2008.

This application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Replace claim **1, 2, 9, 10, 11 and 20** as follows.

Claim 1:

- ✓ Page 2 / the last 8-words: ~~and increasing while the second time length decreases~~ wherein said first time length increases while said second time length decreases

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Claim 2:

- ✓ Page 3 / the last 8-words: ~~and increasing while the second time length~~
decreases wherein said first time length increases while said second time
length decreases

Claim 9:

- ✓ Page 5 / Line 1: A machine-readable record medium
- ✓ Page 6 / the last 8-words: ~~and increasing while the second time length~~
decreases wherein said first time length increases while said second time
length decreases

Claim 10:

- ✓ Page 8 / the last 8-words: ~~and increasing while the second time length~~
decreases wherein said first time length increases while said second time
length decreases

Claim 11:

- ✓ Page 9 / the last 8-words: ~~and increasing while the second time length~~
decreases wherein said first time length increases while said second time
length decreases

Claim 20:

- ✓ Page 13 / the last 8-words: ~~and increasing while the second time length decreases~~ wherein said first time length increases while said second time length decreases

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1 – 20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The above mentioned claims are allowable over prior arts because the CPA (Cited Prior Art) of record fails to teach or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific added limitations, as recited in independent claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 10, 11 and 20 (& associated dependent claims).

The prior arts fail to teach or suggest a method of transmitting contents, which are to be received at a reception side where a portion of contents is previewed while the contents are not accessible for playing other than for a preview purpose, wherein generating information indicative of an elapsed time and a preview time of the contents and transmitting the encrypted contents, the first encrypted information including the information indicative of the elapsed time of the contents, and the second encrypted information including the content-usage control information to the reception side, wherein the information indicative of the elapsed time of the contents is generated such

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that the time count decreases with passage of time on a portion of said time axis of the contents, and increases with passage of time on another portion of said time axis of the contents.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Longbit Chai whose telephone number is 571-272-3788. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Longbit Chai Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2131
2/11/2008